



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 4, 2006

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Chief Financial Officer Sentenced for Embezzlement

(Newport News, VA) – Jennifer Lee Ann Pleacher, age 32, of Norfolk, Virginia, was sentenced today to 32 months imprisonment, followed by a three year term of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$514,939.57 in restitution. On July 17, 2006, Pleacher pled guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of money laundering. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Cassandra M. Chandler, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Norfolk Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), made the announcement after Pleacher was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Raymond A. Jackson.

Court documents reveal that in early 2002, Pleacher was hired as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Vogel Lubrication, Inc. (Vogel), a manufacturer and marketer of centralized lubricating systems and devices used in certain industrial applications, located in Newport News. As the CFO for Vogel, Pleacher was entrusted with access to and control over Vogel's financial accounts and its corporate books, ledgers, and records.

The indictment charged that from about January 2, 2003 through January 7, 2005, Pleacher abused her CFO position and secretly embezzled over \$500,000 from Vogel's financial accounts for her own use and benefit. Pleacher accessed Vogel's computerized payroll records and made false entries causing tens of thousands of dollars to be transmitted from Vogel's financial accounts to her personal checking and savings accounts maintained at Navy Federal Credit Union over the course of two years. Pleacher's embezzlement wire transfer amounts varied, ranging from as low as \$5,000 up to \$52,964.27 on each occasion. The money laundering charge in the indictment charged Pleacher with using a portion of the stolen funds to write a check in the amount of \$43,975.58 to pay off an auto loan for a 2005 Mercedes-Benz SLK350.

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“Pleacher abused a position of financial trust for her own gain and to finance a lifestyle beyond her means. Fraud schemes such as this one are doomed to fail, thanks to the efforts of law enforcement and our private sector partners,” said United States Attorney Rosenberg.

FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Chandler added, “I am pleased at the successful outcome of the investigation and that the FBI was able to recover significant assets which will be applied toward restitution for the victim business.”

The investigation was conducted by the Peninsula Resident Agency of the Norfolk Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Michael Gill prosecuted the case for the United States.

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